

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (canceled).

2. (currently amended) The method of claim 5, wherein exhaust gas treatment agent according to claim 1, wherein the calcium hydroxide accounts for 20 to 70% by weight of the exhaust gas treatment agent.

3. (canceled).

4. (currently amended) The method of claim 5, wherein the exhaust gas treatment agent according to claim 1, wherein the has a void fraction ~~[[is]]~~ of 10 to 50% by volume.

5. (currently amended) An exhaust gas treatment method comprising contacting ~~[[the]]~~ an exhaust gas treatment agent according to claim 1 provided with a particulate and porous structure, comprising calcium hydroxide occupying at least a portion of the surface thereof, and calcium oxide occupying the remainder with exhaust gas containing a hydride and/or halide of an element belonging to ~~group IIb, group IVb or group Vb~~ group IIIa, group IVa or group Va of the periodic table in a gaseous state, wherein

the specific surface area of the exhaust gas treatment agent is 1 m²/g or more.

6. (canceled).

7. (canceled).